



Arizona Department of Public Safety

- For Immediate Release -

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Arizona's New Scrap Metals Law helps Mesa Police make two Arrests *Arizona Department of Public Safety Administers Data Base*

Mesa Police recently made two arrests after the suspects were caught steeling \$30,000 worth of copper wire from city street lights. At the time of their arrest, the suspects were already in a data base set up as a provision of the new Arizona Scrap Metals Law.

The new law requires Arizona scrap metal dealers to record the identity of sellers of non-ferrous metals to include photo, driver license information, and fingerprint, when the transaction is over \$25.00. Upon completing the transaction, the scrap metal dealers will be required to send the information to DPS within 24 hours for data storage. DPS analysts will maintain the data base and provide accurate information to local, county, and state detectives for investigations relating to theft of non ferrous metals from businesses and individuals.

The fact that the suspects were already in the data base will help Mesa Police investigate not only this theft but other unresolved cases of copper theft and greatly aid in the prosecution. This was the intent of Governor Napolitano and State Lawmakers in supporting and passing the new law.

Metal dealers can view the new reporting form at <http://rmin.rissinfo.com>

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